visit to the Russian Federation in November, 2001. Two Sessions of the Indo-Russian Joint Working Group on Afghanistan have already been held. The 7th Session of the Indo-Russian Inter Governmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation was held in Moscow on January 15,2001, and is expected to help in the further intensification of trade and economic cooperation between the two countries. An Agreement between ONGC- Videsh Limited of India and M/s Rosneft of the Russian Federation relating to ONGC-VL's participation in the Sakhalin-I oilfields has been signed. A number of Ministerial exchanges covering various sectors have taken place and several others are planned in the coming months. Foreign Office Consultations on a wide range of subjects, including strategic stability, take place on a regular basis between the two countries. These exchanges are an effective mechanism for addressing and countering any potential problem which could adversely affect our traditional friendship with the Russian Federation.

Sino-Russian Pact

4182. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item entitled "Concern over Sino-Russian Pact" that appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 6th August, 2001;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to protect India's interests in case Russia and China were to carve out a new strategic balance in the international affairs?

THEMINISTEROF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government remains vigilant and takes all appropriate measures to safeguard India's interests.

Illegal foreign occupation in Indian Territory

4183. SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:
SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Indian territory/land under illegal occupation of Pakistan, China and Bangladesh, respectively;